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Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCE-00 ACDA-12 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 AID-05 IGA-02
OMB-01 TRSE-00 SNM-05 DEAE-00 /075 W
----------123499 220906Z /15
P R 220750Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4657
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CDRUSALIC ALEX VA
CDRUSAILCOM NEW CUMB PA
CDRARRCOM ROCK ISLAND IL
CDRUSACSG FT SHAFTER HI
JCS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 3983

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, PCAT, SNAR, BM
SUBJ: PROSPECTIVE BURMESE PURCHASE OF 57MM RECOILLESS RIFLES

REF: (A) DAO RANGOON 020950Z DEC 77, (B) DAO RANGOON 130722Z DEC 77,
(C) DAO RANGOON 141020Z DEC 77, (D) DAO RANGOON 170610Z DEC 77,
(E) DAO RANGOON 191000Z DEC 77, (F) SECDEF 211836Z DEC 77
(G) STATE 290384 (DTG 070857Z DEC 77), (H) RANGOON 3686 (DTG 230902Z
NOV 77)

1. THERE SEEMS TO BE GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT IT WOULD BE IN THE
U.S. INTEREST TO SELL THE BURMESE THE 57MM RECOILLESS RIFLES
DISCUSSED IN THE FERENCED MESSAGES. THE BURMESE HAVE INDI-
CATED THEIR STRONG DESIRE, IN PRINCIPLE, TO BUY THEM; BUT
BEFORE COMMITTING THEMSELVES DEFINITELY TO DO SO, THEY NEED
FURTHER INFORMATION, MOST IMPORTANTLY WITH REGARD TO THE AMOUNT
OF AMMUNITION AVAILABLE. THIS IS UNDERSTANDABLE, SINCE OBVIOUSLY
THE WEAPONS WOULD BE OF NO USE WITHOUT AMMUNITION.
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2. SINCE 2 DECEMBER DAO HAS QUERIED DOD REPEATEDLY ABOUT
THE AVAILABILITY OF AMMUNITION AND ABOUT SEVERAL OTHER
MATTERS CONNECTED WITH THE WEAPONS (REFS A THROUGH D).
THUS FAR, HOWEVER, THE ONLY RESPONSE TO THESE INQUIRIES
WE HAVE SEEN IS REF F, WHICH DIRECTS CDRARCOM TO TAKE REF
D FOR ACTION.

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3. SINCE THE DECEMBER 19 DEADLINE IS NOW WELL PASSED, WE
WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION OF OUR ASSUMPTION (REF E)
THAT THE STATED BURMESE CONDITIONAL INTEREST IN PURCHASE
OF THESE WEAPONS SATISFIES THE DEADLINE REQUIREMENT, OR,
ALTERNATIVELY, AN INDICATION THAT THE DEADLINE HAS BEEN
FURTHER EXTENDED.

4. ALSO, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING YOU COULD DO TO EXPEDITE
PROVISION OF THE REQUESTED INFORMATION. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS
PROSPECTIVE PURCHASE IS VERY MINOR IN COMPARISON TO THE OVERALL
FMS PROGRAM, BUT IT IS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO THE BUREMSE,
WHO CONTINUE TO PRESS US FOR A RESPONSE. MOREOVER, AS NOTED
IN REF H, WE BELIEVE THESE WEAPONS WOULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL
IN THE BURMA ARMY'S OPERATIONS AGAINST THE NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING/
INSURGENT ORGANIZATIONS; CONSEQUENTLY PROVISION OF THEM WOULD
ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF NARCOTICS CONTROL, THE MAJOR U.S. INTEREST
IN BURMA. SO FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF U.S. INTERESTS AS
WELL AS BURMESE INTERESTS, EXPEDITIOUS HANDLING OF THIS MATTER
IS IMPORTANT.

5. THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH DAO.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SMALL ARMS, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977RANGOO03983
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770477-0598
Format: TEL
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771226/aaaaavoe.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6e1049fe-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Aug-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 146111
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROSPECTIVE BURMESE PURCHASE OF 57MM RECOILLESS RIFLES
TAGS: MASS, PCAT, SNAR, BM
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6e1049fe-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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